

The Principal Directions in Advancing the Mechanisms for Ensuring Accessibility of Cultural Goods and Services for People With Disabilities in the Russian Federation

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ABSTRACT

The article discusses the advancing of mechanisms for ensuring accessibility of cultural goods and services for people with disabilities in the Russian Federation, which are aimed at individual empowerment.

The author focuses on the preparedness of cultural institutions to provide an accessible, barrier-free environment for people with disabilities. The article presents the results of a multi-year monitoring of the constituent entities of the Russian Federation, which support the author's hypothesis that the potential of socio-cultural inclusion is a strategic resource for the country's socio-economic development.

Keywords: *accessibility of cultural goods and services for people with disabilities, inclusive practices in culture and education, inclusive institutions*

I. INTRODUCTION

Culture is one of the main national priorities, a significant factor for enhancing the quality of life and harmonizing social relations, a key to sustainable socio-economic development and a guarantee of maintaining integral cultural space and the territorial integrity of Russia¹. The Constitution of the Russian Federation proclaims the common right to participate in cultural life and access cultural institutions and items of cultural value².

Accessibility of cultural goods and services is among the major factors for successful social adaptation and integration of people with disabilities, as culture responds to higher human needs. Providing an accessible environment for people with disabilities in the cultural sector institutions and ensuring accessibility of cultural goods and services for people with disabilities in particular is an essential public policy of the Russian Federation and for the period up to 2025.

The relevance of the research is conditioned by the emerging sociocultural inequality and the associated risks in all areas of disabled people's lives.

According to the tendencies of the world civilization development, society is constantly undergoing transformation processes and updating its system of values, based on its growing needs. The value of the human person and their potential highlights the importance of ensuring accessibility of cultural goods and services for people with disabilities, unlocking their creative potential, self-improvement, self-actualization and self-realization.

Despite the established legal and regulatory framework on ensuring accessibility of cultural goods and services for people with disabilities in the Russian Federation, there are certain inequalities in terms of accessing the facilities of cultural institutions, which result from uneven economic and social development of the constituent entities and municipalities of the Russian Federation. This circumstance cannot but limit the opportunities for people with disabilities to exercise their rights in different aspects of life, culture in particular.

According to the Russian Federal State Statistics Service (Rosstat), about 53% of people with disabilities aged 15 and over are able to lead an active lifestyle.

¹ On the Approval of the Fundamentals of State Cultural Policy: Decree of the President of the Russian Federation No. 808 dated December 24, 2014).

² Article 44 of the Constitution of the Russian Federation.

However, the actual level of their engagement in cultural activity and integration in cultural space is lower. Thus, according to the results of the annual monitoring of cultural goods and services accessibility for people with disabilities in the Russian Federation, in 2018, the average visits to cultural institutions by people with disabilities were as follows:

- to museums - 16%;
- to libraries - 11%;
- to theatres and concerts - 7%.

One of the major obstacles is the reluctance of individual cultural institutions to ensure an accessible environment for people with disabilities, which is often caused by insufficient material and technical resources or unfeasibility of introducing the necessary improvements or constructional modifications because of the cultural heritage status of their buildings. Thus, the number of region-level cultural objects made accessible for people with disabilities within the "Accessible Environment" state program of the Russian Federation is 5,300 out of 8,922 (59.4%). Additionally, there is a lack of awareness among people with disabilities of the activities, which are organized and held by cultural institutions (mostly among the residents of rural and under-populated areas).

With the implementation of the roadmaps for increasing accessibility of the cultural sector goods and services for people with disabilities (approved by the Ministry of Culture of Russia), cultural management authorities and local authorities in the constituent entities of the Russian Federation expect to achieve 100% sector accessibility results on most indicators by 2030.

Taking into account the complex network of cultural sector institutions of the Russian Federation and the substantial funding required to fully and effectively implement the measures for adapting facilities and ensuring the quality of provided services for people with disabilities, it is critical to develop common and comprehensive approaches to ensuring accessibility of cultural goods and services for people with disabilities in the Russian Federation. This justifies the topicality of the current research.

To our knowledge, this is the first study to carry out the analysis of accessibility of cultural goods and services for people with disabilities in 85 constituent entities of the Russian Federation. The research data demonstrates the evolution of accessibility of cultural goods and services for people with disabilities from in 2015-2019. The legal and regulatory framework for ensuring accessibility of cultural services for people with disabilities in the Russian Federation has been established; regional and local regulations have been harmonized with the federal ones. The article has

identified the demand among people with disabilities for the services of theatres, concert organizations, museums, libraries, cultural and leisure institutions, cinemas and other cultural sector institutions.

II. PREVIOUS RESEARCH ON THE TOPIC

Inclusion and accessibility of cultural facilities for people with disabilities in the context of shaping new worldview were broadly defined in the works by A. Liasidou, D. Robinson and S. Trussler³. Cultural diversity that implies differences in the system of values, gender, race, language and ethnicity, and its collision with the universal ethics was the focus of the research by D. Melé, J. Ruggie and C. Sánchez-Runde. They stated that in the conditions of diversity, organising living and working together is a challenge for management.

The current research on the phenomenon of sociocultural rehabilitation of people with disabilities and general understanding of the inclusion problem has been considerably influenced by the works by O.N. Astafieva A.S. Akhiezer, T.I. Zaslavskaya, S. G. Kirdina, V. A. Krasilshchikov, N.I. Lapin, N. E. Tikhonova, and V. Ya. Yadov discussing the problems of Russia as a part of integral sociocultural space, as well as the works by B.M. Bim-Bad, P. S. Gurevich, E. A. Orlova, and Yu. M. Reznik identifying the role of a person of today in this process.

Profound understanding of accessibility of cultural goods and services for people with disabilities, based on equal opportunities is in line with Sustainable Development Goals 2030. The pioneers to ensure accessibility are the countries of the Anglo-Saxon group, as well as Asian countries - Hong Kong, China, Malaysia, Singapore, and Japan.

III. THE TARGET OF THE RESEARCH

The target of the research is providing the conditions for progressive accessibility of facilities and services of the cultural sector for people with disabilities in the Russian Federation, social adaptation of people with disabilities and their cultural integration.

In order to meet the target of the research, the following tasks have to be performed:

³ Liasidou A. Inclusive education and critical pedagogy at the intersections of disability, race, gender and class. *Journal for Critical Education Policy Studies*, 10 (1), 2012. pp. 168-184; Liasidou A. Inclusive Education, Politics and Policymaking. *Perspectives on Inclusion: Discourses, Politics and Educational Practice*. London: Continuum, 2012. Available at: <https://media.bloomsbury.com/rep/files/9781441157393-combined.pdf>; Trussler S. & Robinson D. *Inclusive practice in the primary school: a guide for teachers*. London: Sage, 2015.

- Stimulating the interest in creative activity among people with disabilities by means of raising awareness of the events being organized and held by cultural institutions;
- Engaging people with disabilities in cultural life and unlocking their creative potential;
- Providing conditions for accessible and quality education in the field of culture and arts for people with disabilities;
- Adapting and modifying facilities and services of the cultural sector for people with disabilities;
- Advancing the mechanisms of sociocultural rehabilitation and habilitation of people with disabilities, including children, in the Russian Federation and creating a system to assess the effectiveness of the introduced measures.

The key principles for meeting the research target include:

- Consolidation - combining efforts and resources of authorities at different levels, professional and expert communities, non-profit organizations, etc. when implementing the measures for ensuring accessibility of cultural goods and services for people with disabilities.
- Equality - equal participation of all concerned parties in making decisions aimed at ensuring accessibility of cultural sector institutions.
- Conventionalism - taking into consideration the opinions and suggestions of all concerned parties when dealing with the issues of accessibility of cultural goods and services for people with disabilities.
- Consistency - organizing work pursuing consistent efforts, taking into account the accumulated experience and established practices in applying the law.

IV. THE ANALYSIS OF THE CURRENT SYSTEM OF PROVIDING ACCESSIBILITY OF CULTURAL GOODS AND SERVICES FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES IN THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION

Providing an accessible environment for people with disabilities and limited mobility is one of the socio-economic priorities involving the rights and needs of millions of citizens of the Russian Federation living both in urban and rural areas.

In 2008, the Russian Federation signed the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (henceforth referred to as the Convention), which was further ratified in 2012. This fact indicates the country's preparedness to create the conditions to meet the

international standards of economic, social, legal and other rights of people with disabilities. According to the Convention and the International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health, the tasks of providing an accessible environment and creating a system of comprehensive rehabilitation of people with disabilities, including children with disabilities, is defined as a key priority public policy.

Until 2012, Russia did not have a comprehensive approach to dealing with the important social task of creating equal opportunities for people with disabilities by means of ensuring an accessible physical, social, information and psychological environment. This has led to a number of problems, including:

- imperfection of legislation on the issues of ensuring an accessible environment for people with disabilities: incomplete legal and regulatory framework of the Russian Federation and its constituent entities; its insufficient harmonization with the norms of international law; advisory nature of the norms, rules and standards specifying conditions for creating an accessible environment for people with disabilities;
- insufficient or ineffective coordination and interaction between government authorities, local authorities, businesses and non-governmental and non-profit organizations on creating an accessible environment, including when implementing departmental and regional policies and measures;
- the absence of a system for independent expert assessment and control in design, construction and reconstruction of facilities from the standpoint of their accessibility for people with disabilities and limited mobility.

In implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, in 2012-2019, much work was undertaken by the Ministry of Culture of the Russian Federation in order to ensure accessibility of educational and cultural facilities and services for people with disabilities and health limitations. For this purpose, the Ministry of Culture of Russia developed a legal and regulatory framework on ensuring accessibility of cultural goods and services for people with disabilities, which identifies the policy priorities in the area.

Aimed at improving the system of ensuring accessibility of cultural goods and services for people with disabilities, the Ministry of Culture of Russia and the cultural management authorities in the constituent entities of the Russian Federation carry out regular activities on updating the regulatory and legal framework and mechanisms for providing a barrier-free

environment. Most amendments to the legal and regulatory framework on providing an accessible environment for people with disabilities were introduced by the cultural authorities of Moscow Oblast, Novosibirsk Oblast, Sverdlovskaya Oblast, the Republic of Tatarstan, and Perm Krai. Harmonising regional legislation with the Federal Law No. 419-FZ dated December 1, 2014 and the orders of the Ministry of Culture of Russia allowed improved access for people with disabilities to cultural institutions and their services (including out of public funds of the Russian Federation).

Between 2016 and 2019, the cultural authorities of the constituent entities of the Russian Federation carried out work on advancing plans of measures aimed at improved accessibility of cultural institutions and their services for people with disabilities. Therefore, the following changes were introduced:

- the indicators of services accessibility for people with disabilities were brought into compliance with the basic accessibility indicators established by laws and regulations of the Ministry of Culture of Russia (in Belgorod Oblast, Volgograd Oblast, Perm Krai, and Krasnoyarsk Krai);
- the indicators of the cultural industry accessibility increased in number (in the Komi Republic, Vladimir Oblast, Bryansk Oblast, and Tomsk Oblast);
- roadmaps by sectors were approved to ensure accessibility of cultural institutions (in Voronezh Oblast, Moscow Oblast, Nizhny Novgorod Oblast, Novgorod Oblast, Sverdlovskaya Oblast, Ulyanovsk Oblast, and Kamchatka Krai).

As the result of the implementation of the "Accessible Environment" state program of the Russian Federation, by 2020, there has been the following increase in the indicators characterizing the level of accessibility of priority facilities and services for people with disabilities:

- the proportion of priority facilities of the cultural sector accessible to people with disabilities and limited mobility groups has grown up to 60.60% out of the total of priority cultural facilities;
- the number of fiction, non-fiction and animated films of the past years lasting over 100 minutes provided with subtitling and audio description increased up to 150;
- the number of pages of digital music texts in the Braille system ready to be uploaded to the National Electronic Library has reached 15,000.

The Forecast of the Cultural Sector Development until 2030, implies creating the necessary conditions to

ensure sustainable development in the cultural sector, provide maximum accessibility of cultural services and artistic education for the citizens of Russia, preserve the cultural heritage of Russia; enhancing the quality and diversifying services of the cultural sector; and advancing organizational, economic and legal mechanisms in the cultural sector⁴.

The state program of the Russian Federation "Development of Culture and Tourism for 2013 - 2020", approved by Decree of the Government of the Russian Federation No. 317 dated April 15, 2014 envisages providing the conditions for people to participate in cultural life, as well as for the engagement of children, youth, elderly people and people with disabilities in socio-cultural activities; creating favorable conditions for improving public cultural and leisure services, developing material and technical resources of the industry, and promoting amateur creative activities; stimulating the demand for cultural goods and services; ensuring access to national and world cultural values through establishing online public libraries, museums and theatre platforms, acquiring rights for the free-of-charge online broadcast of films and performances.

The roadmaps for increasing accessibility of facilities and services of the cultural sector for people with disabilities, approved by the Ministry of Culture of Russia, the cultural authorities of the constituent entities of the Russian Federation and local authorities, stipulate ensuring 100% accessibility of the cultural industry for people with disabilities upon most indicators by 2030.

In implementation of the instructions of the President of the Russian Federation No. Pr-50 dated January 13, 2018, the Ministry of Culture of Russia formulated and put forward a proposal concerning the development of a network of inclusive creative laboratories (centres) at the leading cultural institutions as a part of the state program of the Russian Federation "Accessible Environment" up to 2025. The main objective of inclusive creative laboratories (centres) will be to develop a partnership network of non-profit social organizations and cultural institutions and share experience in implementing inclusive creative projects.

With the purpose of improving the activities of online cinemas and ensuring their accessibility for people with disabilities, the Ministry of Culture of Russia has elaborated a draft federal law "On Amendments to the Federal Law "On State Support of Cinematography of the Russian Federation" and Certain Legislative Acts of the Russian Federation" (henceforth referred to as the draft federal law).

⁴ Long-term Forecast of Socio-economic Development of Russia until 2030 (developed by the Ministry of Economic Development of Russia).

The draft federal law specifies the responsibility of film demonstrators to ensure accessibility of cinemas for people with disabilities and show audio description and subtitled full-length national films (feature or animated) according to the Rules for film demonstrators approved by the Order of the Ministry of Culture of Russia No. 1017, dated June 27, 2018. The draft federal law also requires online cinemas to provide the opportunities for people with disabilities to watch audio described and subtitled national films online. Meanwhile, film producers, distributors or other right holders will have to provide audio description and subtitles for national films to online cinemas and film demonstrators on purchasing a film copy.

Due to the fact that the network of cultural sector institutions in the Russian Federation is complex, the full and effective implementation of the measures for adapting facilities and ensuring the quality of provided services for people with disabilities requires substantial funding. Therefore, it is critical to develop common and comprehensive approaches to ensuring accessibility of cultural facilities for people with disabilities in the Russian Federation, taking into account the results of the annual monitoring of cultural and educational institutions carried out by the Ministry of Culture of Russia.

V. ADVANCING THE MECHANISMS OF ENSURING ACCESSIBILITY OF CULTURAL SERVICES FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES IN THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION

A. Updating roadmaps for increasing accessibility of services for people with disabilities in the institutions subordinated to the culture authorities of the constituent entities of the Russian Federation

In accordance with the protocol resolution of the Commission under the President of Russia for People with Disabilities (resolutions No. 9 dated November 26, 2014 and No. 13 dated April 12, 2016), the Ministry of Culture of Russia performs administration and methodological work aimed at adopting laws and regulations on ensuring accessibility of facilities and services of the cultural sector for people with disabilities, as well as on developing roadmaps for improving accessibility of facilities and services for people with disabilities (henceforth referred to as roadmaps).

Within the research, we monitored and analyzed laws and regulations on providing accessibility of facilities and services of the cultural sector for people with disabilities, and roadmaps of all 85 constituent entities of the Russian Federation for their compliance with the provisions of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the Federal Law No. 419-FZ dated December 1, 2014 and the Procedure for ensuring

accessibility of cultural goods and services for people with disabilities, approved by the order of the Ministry of Culture of Russia.

The analysis of regional roadmaps for improving accessibility of facilities and services for people with disabilities identified inconsistencies between individual roadmaps and the Federal Law No. 419-FZ dated December 1, 2014, the Rules for federal executive authorities, the authorities of the constituent entities of the Russian Federation and local authorities for the development of measures to increase accessibility of facilities and services for people with disabilities, approved by Decree of the Government of the Russian Federation No. 599 dated June 17, 2015 (Order of the Ministry of Culture of Russia No. 599, dated April 27, 2018 "On the approval of the indicators characterizing the general criteria for assessing the quality of service delivery by cultural organizations"), and sectoral procedures for providing accessibility of facilities and services for people with disabilities, approved by the Orders of the Ministry of Culture of Russia No. 2761, dated November 10, 2015, No. 2803 dated November 16, 2015, No. 2800 dated November 16, 2015, and No. 2834 dated November 20, 2015. The inconsistencies are as follows:

- the established deadlines for the implementation of measures within roadmaps are unreasonably tight (2018–2020), which does not allow achieving maximum accessibility (in Amur Oblast, the Kabardino-Balkarian Republic, and the Republic of Kalmykia);
- regional roadmaps do not cover individual indicators of accessibility of the cultural sector, provided for by orders of the Ministry of Culture of Russia (in Astrakhan Oblast, Samara Oblast, Smolensk Oblast, Krasnoyarsk Krai, and Khabarovsk Krai);
- regional roadmaps do not differentiate indicators of accessibility of the cultural sector by types of cultural institutions (in Astrakhan Oblast, the Republic of Ingushetia, and the Republic of North Ossetia-Alania).

In order to increase accessibility of facilities and services of the cultural sector institutions for people with disabilities, the Ministry of Culture of Russia has developed Recommendations for improving the corresponding regional laws and regulations to guide regional authorities. The reports on the improvement of the corresponding laws and regulations are regularly discussed at the meetings of the Working group on creating the conditions for the participation of people with disabilities in cultural life of the Commission under the President of Russia for People with Disabilities, as well as at meetings of the Public Council of the Ministry of Culture of Russia.

The main results of the measures taken by the executive authorities of the constituent entities of the Russian Federation to improve laws and regulations on the accessibility of goods and services of the cultural sector institutions for people with disabilities are reflected in consolidated status reports. Annual status reports by regional authorities on the implementation of roadmaps in the constituent entities of the Russian Federation delivered at the meetings of the Working group on creating the conditions for the participation of people with disabilities in cultural life of the Commission under the President of Russia for People with Disabilities are expected to become the mechanism for monitoring the effectiveness of regional roadmaps and their further development.

B. The establishment and functioning of creative laboratories

The need for creating a network of inclusive creative laboratories in the Russian Federation is justified by the lack of federal industry centres to support inclusive creative projects and specialists involved in cultural inclusion.

The establishment of a network of inclusive creative laboratories (centres) will provide the necessary methodological support for cultural institutions, professional development for the cultural sector employees, the adoption and development of the most effective inclusive practices, and the implementation of projects aimed at engaging talented children, youth and young professionals with disabilities in creative activity.

Inclusive creative laboratories established within the state program of the Russian Federation "Accessible Environment" are expected to deal with a key problem in ensuring accessibility of cultural goods for people with disabilities, which is associated with uneven government support of projects aimed at people with disabilities. Consolidation of resources and the use of the developed infrastructure of the leading cultural institutions will contribute to better conditions for the active participation of people with disabilities in cultural life, especially in the constituent entities of the Russian Federation, where the funding is insufficient to carry out creative projects with their own resources.

The laboratories will be the institutions of the cultural sector having considerable experience in engaging people disabilities in cultural life, selected on the following criteria:

- importance of a cultural institution or educational organization of the cultural sector for people with disabilities (including people's demand for it);
- experience in organizing all-Russia inclusive creative projects and events aimed at involving

people with disabilities in the cultural life of society (5 years and over);

- application of new effective inclusive forms of creative activity for people with disabilities;
- development of inclusive professional forms of performing art;
- accumulation of best practices for unlocking the creative potential of people with disabilities and creation of conditions to ensure equal opportunities for professional arts.

An illustrative example of the effective implementation of projects in the area is the Inclusive Art Centre, created at the Russian State Specialized Academy of Arts in execution of the instructions of the President of the Russian Federation No. Pr-50 dated January 13, 2018. The main goal of the establishment of the Inclusive Art Centre is developing inclusive forms of professional arts.

Thus, creating a network of inclusive creative laboratories will stimulate active cultural life in the regions, provide synergy of creative, human and material resources and produce impressive results in the field of culture and arts.

C. Development of a digital environment for people with disabilities and health limitations

For several years, the Ministry of Culture of the Russian Federation has been providing methodological and informational support in organizing online events and carrying out projects in the field of culture. In particular, the major focus of the Ministry is ensuring accessibility of such events and projects for people with disabilities.

The federal project "Digital Culture" implies widespread introduction of digital technologies into the cultural space of the Russian Federation with the purpose of providing access to information and services of cultural institutions for people with disabilities.

The automated information system "Common Information Space in the Sphere of Culture" developed by the Ministry of Culture of Russia contains the information on inclusive events organized by cultural institutions all around Russia. Over 4,500 cultural institutions accessible for people with disabilities have been registered in the system since September 1, 2017. Another platform to give relevant information on the accessible events is the "Events" section of the Culture.ru portal.

The information about the events accessible for people with disabilities can be found on official websites of the cultural sector institutions. The monitoring conducted in 2018 demonstrates the proportion of official websites adapted for people with

visual impairments. According to the sample test results, accessibility is ensured in:

- 98% of websites of higher education institutions subordinated to the Ministry of Culture of Russia and 100% of websites of higher education institutions of the cultural sector in the constituent entities of the Russian Federation;
- 100% of websites of vocational training institutions subordinated to the Ministry of Culture of Russia and 80% of websites of vocational training institutions in the constituent entities of the Russian Federation;
- 100% of websites of general educational institutions subordinated to the Ministry of Culture of Russia;
- 86% of websites of circus organizations in the constituent entities of the Russian Federation;
- 66% of websites of museums subordinated to the Ministry of Culture of Russia, and 65% of websites of museums in the constituent entities of the Russian Federation;
- 65% of websites of children's schools of arts;
- 38% of websites of libraries subordinated to the Ministry of Culture of Russia and 53% of websites of libraries in the constituent entities of the Russian Federation.

Within the federal project "Cultural Environment" the following improvements have been scheduled for the period of 2019-2024:

- 4 cultural, educational and museum complexes will be created;
- 39 centres of cultural development will be constructed in cities with the population up to 300,000 people;
- 40 regional and municipal youth theatres and puppet theatres will be reconstructed;
- 660 municipal libraries will be refurbished in accordance with the standard of a model library;
- 15 federal and 15 regional and (or) municipal institutions of the cultural sector will be renovated;
- 500 cultural and leisure facilities in rural areas will be constructed (reconstructed) or fully repaired;
- 600 mobile multifunctional cultural centres will be purchased;
- 1,200 cinemas will be equipped;

- 1,800 educational institutions of the cultural industry will be equipped with musical instruments, technical equipment and educational materials.

The results of the monitoring on the accessibility of cultural goods and services for people with disabilities in the Russian Federation for 2019 defined the constituent entities of the Russian Federation having organized the most considerable number of events and activities for socio-cultural rehabilitation of people with disabilities, including children. They are Moscow, St. Petersburg, Altai Krai, Moscow Oblast, Sverdlovskaya Oblast, Novosibirsk Oblast, etc.

The working group on creating the conditions for the participation of people with disabilities in cultural life of the Commission under the President of Russia for People with Disabilities made a series of decisions aimed at improving subtitled and audio description of films in online cinemas. In implementation of the clause 1.7 of the meeting minutes of the Commission under the President of Russia for People with Disabilities No. 1 dated October 25, 2012, as part of the annual monitoring of accessibility of cultural services for people with disabilities in the Russian Federation, the Ministry of Culture of Russia regularly updates the information on audio described and subtitled films.

VI. CONCLUSION

Public policy in the field of ensuring accessibility of cultural services and facilities for people with disabilities is being implemented within the "Accessible Environment" state program of the Russian Federation, as well as other programs. The policy priorities include the following:

- Improving material, technical and human resources of cultural and educational institutions of the sector through implementing roadmaps for increasing accessibility of facilities and services for people with disabilities.
- Increasing the demand for institutions of the cultural sector among people with disabilities, including by means of state support of creative, cultural and educational events.
- Creating and maintaining a network of inclusive creative laboratories (centres) at the leading cultural institutions of the Russian Federation.
- Adopting and developing effective inclusive practices and technologies of social and cultural rehabilitation of people with disabilities.
- Raising awareness among people with disabilities of the events held by the cultural sector institutions.

- Establishing and updating the database of vacancies for people with disabilities, updating jobs guidebooks with future-oriented vocations in culture and arts for the employment of graduates with disabilities.
- Promoting the activity of inclusive creative clubs in cultural institutions of the Russian Federation.

The policy is implemented by federal executive authorities, cultural authorities of the constituent entities of the Russian Federation and local authorities in accordance with their competency. The principal mechanisms of its implementation include:

Legal mechanisms

- strengthening the federal, regional and municipal legal and regulatory framework on ensuring accessibility of cultural goods and services for people with disabilities in accordance with the public policy of the Russian Federation in the area;

Institutional and management mechanisms

- implementing a set of measures by the executive authorities of the constituent entities of the Russian Federation within roadmaps for increasing accessibility of facilities and services for people with disabilities;
- establishing a socio-cultural infrastructure encouraging effective creative development and socialization of people with disabilities;
- maintaining the existing inclusive creative clubs and establishing new ones by types of arts at the institutions of the cultural sector of the Russian Federation;
- improving the system of parameters indicating the level of accessibility of cultural services for people with disabilities in the Russian Federation;
- monitoring the effectiveness of Strategy implementation in the constituent entities and municipalities of the Russian Federation;
- developing effective controls (state, public and corporate) on ensuring accessibility of cultural facilities and services for people with disabilities in the Russian Federation;
- taking into account results of the independent evaluation of the quality of service provided by cultural institutions and the proposals by the expert and professional community, and national organizations for people with disabilities when making decisions on establishing and

maintaining an accessible environment in the organizations of the cultural sector;

Human resources mechanisms

- increasing knowledge and raising professional competence of managers and employees of the cultural sector in providing services for people with disabilities by means of developing the system of further education (advanced training and professional retraining) in working with people with disabilities;
- developing and introducing new occupational standards dealing with providing services for people with disabilities, for instance, standards of specialists in audio description or barrier-free environments;

Methodological mechanisms

- organizing and carrying out scientific research on ensuring accessibility of cultural services for people with disabilities;
- developing and advancing the methods and technologies for social and cultural rehabilitation of people with disabilities in the Russian Federation;
- creating a system for assessing the effectiveness of the measures taken, including federal standards of comprehensive social rehabilitation and habilitation of people with disabilities, including children;
- organizing and conducting research on the cultural needs of people with disabilities in order to determine their individual, psychological, age and other characteristics;

Financial and economic mechanisms

- providing the constituent entities and municipalities of the Russian Federation with the necessary resources for the effective and comprehensive implementation of measures aimed at ensuring accessibility of cultural services for people with disabilities;
- developing the mechanisms of public-private partnership, raising funds for the implementation of measures for establishing an accessible environment in organizations of the cultural sector;

Information mechanisms

- using modern information and communication technologies and online resources in order to keep people with disabilities and non-profit organizations for people with disabilities

informed about the events held by the cultural sector institutions;

- covering and promoting events held by the cultural sector institutions and aimed at unlocking creative potential of people with disabilities in national and regional mass media;
- encouraging the attitude of tolerance and respect towards people with disabilities in society, fostering a culture of inclusion and inclusive interaction with people with disabilities;
- ensuring adaptation of official websites of the cultural sector organizations for people with visual impairments and publication of updated information on creative activities for people with disabilities.

Implementation of comprehensive measures in the Russian Federation is expected to result in:

- accessibility of the services of cultural organizations for people of most nosological groups of disability;
- satisfying cultural and educational needs of people with disabilities and maximum development of their creative talent, regardless of their place of residence, social status, health or age;
- favourable conditions for organising inclusive creative events in the institutions of the cultural sector throughout the entire territory of the Russian Federation;
- socio-cultural infrastructure contributing to effective creative development of people with disabilities, their socialization and equal participation in the cultural life of society;
- human resources development in the cultural sector organizations, their focus on the needs of people with disabilities;
- government support of creative, cultural and educational events for people with disabilities;
- developing a monitoring system and parameters to indicate the effectiveness of implemented measures.

The national project "Culture" maps out activities aimed at creating conditions for people with disabilities to ensure their equal participation in the cultural life of society as well as introduction to moral and cultural values.

In order to encourage people with disabilities and health limitations to participate in cultural activities and develop their creative potential, the Ministry of Culture of Russia makes use of various digital technologies.

Digital technologies and their introduction to the cultural space of the Russian Federation allow ensuring accessibility of information and services provided by cultural institutions for people with disabilities. Specifically, the automated information system "Common Information Space in the Sphere of Culture" developed by the Ministry of Culture of Russia provides immediate access to information on inclusive events held by cultural institutions throughout the country.

Moreover, the Ministry of Culture of Russia annually organizes over 100 cultural events in the constituent entities of the Russian Federation and broadcasts them online on the Culture.ru portal and in social networking sites. The main objective of the project is to ensure equal access for all categories of citizens, including those with disabilities, to the greatest creative events.

The federal project "Digital Culture" envisages the establishment of 500 virtual concert halls, 660 model libraries and 4 cultural, educational and museum complexes, located in Vladivostok, Kaliningrad, Kemerovo and Sevastopol, which will be accessible for all categories of people with disabilities.

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- [13] Order of the Ministry of Culture of Russia No. 2761 dated November 10, 2015 "On the approval of the Procedure for ensuring accessibility of libraries and library services for people with disabilities in accordance with the legislation of the Russian Federation on the social protection of people with disabilities".
- [14] Order of the Ministry of Culture of Russia No. 2803 dated November 16, 2015 "On the approval of the Procedure for ensuring accessibility of museums for people with disabilities, including the opportunity for them to study museum exhibits and collections, in accordance with the legislation of the Russian Federation on social protection of people with disabilities".
- [15] Order of the Ministry of Culture of Russia No. 2800 dated November 16, 2015 "On the approval of the Procedure for ensuring accessibility of cultural goods and services for people with disabilities".
- [16] Order of the Ministry of Culture of Russia No. 2820 dated November 18, 2015 "On the approval of the list of federal institutions of culture and arts, providing accessibility for people with disabilities".
- [17] Order of the Ministry of Culture of Russia No. 2834 dated November 20, 2015 "On the approval of the Procedure for ensuring accessibility for people with disabilities of cultural heritage objects included in the Unified state register of cultural heritage objects (historical and cultural monuments) of the peoples of the Russian Federation".
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